

CLAIMS

1. A portable medical monitoring apparatus (100) comprising:
a portable monitoring device (124) for medically monitoring to detect an occurrence of a predefined abnormal condition; and
a wireless transmitter (128, 136) attached to the device and configured for automatically, wirelessly and directly communicating the occurrence to a portable phone (108) upon detection by the device of said occurrence, the phone being configured to make an emergency call upon receiving the communication (228).
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the monitoring is of a subject (104), the device being attached to the subject during the monitoring (126).
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the phone comprises a Bluetooth device (156), said apparatus further comprising a Bluetooth device (136) configured for said communicating with the Bluetooth device of the phone.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the phone, said phone having an automatic dialer (152), the phone being configured to, upon said receiving the communication (208, 212), activate the automatic dialer to call a particular phone number (228, 164).
5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the phone is further configured to play a pre-recorded message on the call when the call is answered (236, 168).
6. A portable medical monitoring system comprising:
a portable monitoring apparatus (100) for medically monitoring to detect an occurrence of a predefined abnormal condition (204); and
a portable phone (108) having an automatic dialer (152) and configured to, upon detecting of said occurrence by said apparatus (208), activate the automatic dialer to call a particular phone number (228, 164), the phone being further configured to play a pre-recorded message on the call when the call is answered (236, 168).

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the apparatus is configured to communicate said detecting of said occurrence automatically, wirelessly and directly to the phone (100, 108).
8. The system of claim 6, wherein the monitoring is of a subject (104), the device being attached to the subject *during the monitoring* (126).
9. The system of claim 6, wherein the phone comprises a Bluetooth device (156), said apparatus further comprising a Bluetooth device (136) configured for communicating to the Bluetooth device of the phone said detecting of said occurrence (208, 212).
10. The system of claim 6, wherein the phone further comprises a global positioning system (GPS) unit (160) configured for determining a street map location of the phone (220), the phone being further configured to augment the pre-recorded message with said location (224).
11. The system of claim 6, wherein the pre-recorded message is a voice message (168) and the playing of the message occurs on a voice channel (232, 236).
12. A portable medical monitoring method comprising the steps of:
medically monitoring, with a portable monitoring device, to detect an occurrence of a predefined abnormal condition (204);
automatically, wirelessly and directly communicating, by a wireless transmitter attached to the device, the occurrence to a portable phone upon detection by the device of said occurrence (208, 212); and
making, by said phone, an emergency call upon receiving the communication (228, 232, 236).
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the call making step further comprises the step of activating an automatic dialer (228) in the phone to call a particular phone number (228, 164).
14. The method of claim 12, wherein call making step comprises the step of playing, by said phone, a pre-recorded message on the call when the call is answered (236, 168).

15. A portable medical monitoring method comprising:
 - medically monitoring, by a portable medical monitoring apparatus, to detect an occurrence of a predefined abnormal condition (204);
 - upon detecting of said occurrence by said apparatus, activating an automatic dialer in the phone to call a particular phone number (208, 212, 228); and
 - playing, by said phone, a pre-recorded message on the call when the call is answered (232, 236).
 16. The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of automatically, wirelessly and directly communicating, by said apparatus, to the phone said detecting of said occurrence (208, 212, 100, 108).
 17. The method of claim 15, wherein the monitoring is of a subject (104), the device being attached to the subject during the monitoring (126).